

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit that the current amendments to the Specification and Abstract do not constitute new matter. The Applicants maintain that the Specification as originally filed contains adequate support for the currently contemplated amendments. The Applicants submit that the current amendments are simply corrective, clarifying, or stylistic in nature and do not constitute substantive changes to the disclosure. The current amendments are either typographical corrections or clarifications of the inherent or expressly detailed characteristics of the present invention, both of which are proper corrections to propose to the text of the Specification by Preliminary Amendment. The Applicants respectfully request the entrance of the current amendments to the Application.

Paragraph 6 was amended to include a few stylistic changes. The last sentence was amended to specify the data latency problem inherent in the prior art to be corrected by the present invention.

Paragraph 27 was amended to clarify which "fault recovery" instances the present invention provides for. The events which trigger a fault recovery are inherently known in the art to be an equipment failure or a lost connection.

Paragraph 28 was amended to clarify the function of the application server 125.

Page 9, Paragraph starting with "Backend 130" was amended. This paragraph describes the general function of the backend in storage and retrieval.

Paragraphs 31 and 32 were amended to change a verb tense.

Paragraph 34 was amended to make a clarification that a test "session" should be designated restartable.

Paragraph 35 was amended to clarify the restarting of the testing "station".

Paragraph 36 was amended to include an inherent adjective, "additional", in one sentence of the paragraph.

Paragraph 37 was amended to clarify the previously described functions of the elements of the backend 130. These various elements of the backend 130 are described in Paragraphs starting on Page 9.

Paragraph 38 was amended to simply clarify the known definition of adaptive tests.

Paragraph 41 was amended to simply clarify the known definition of lookahead function used in connection with adaptive tests.

Paragraph 42, 43 and 44 were simply amended to reflect stylistic changes.

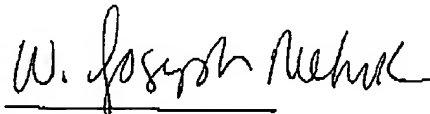
Applicants submit an amended Abstract. Please accept this amended Abstract. The new Abstract simply clarifies a method according to the present invention and does not constitute new matter. Data latency is adequately described throughout the specification.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully submit the current preliminary amendment as timely filed. The preliminary amendment is filed no later than three months from the filing date of the application.

Although Applicant believes no fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account No. 50-0436 for any fees that may be due in connection with this response. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding these remarks, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone conference with the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,



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